

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

The following claim set replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) A pipette comprising, ~~which is fitted with a housing, a tip fitted at an end of the housing for receiving a liquid therein, a plunger for drawing the [[a]] liquid into the tip; and to be drawn therein by means of a plunger and which has a tip removing mechanism for disengaging the tip from the housing, wherein the [[said]] tip removing mechanism comprises:~~ comprising
- (i) a remover element which is moveable in a direction between first and second positions, wherein the remover element, upon moving it against the tip, disengages the tip in response to being moved from the first position thereof and into the second position thereof, and wherein the tip removing mechanism further comprises
 - (ii) a rotatable ramp member defining a circular spiral, which is rotatable and which has a circle forming ramp surface, wherein the ramp surface includes at least one ramp surface segment which establishes including one or more segments within which the ramp surface has a high point, [[and]] a low point and a substantially vertical section between the high and low points, wherein rotation of whereby the ramp surface, upon rotating through the at least one ramp surface a single segment [[.]] responsively forces the remover element first to move into the second position thereof against the tip so as to disengage the tip from the housing and thereafter then allows [[it]] the remover element to return to the first position thereof.

12. (currently amended) A pipette as set forth in claim 11, wherein the ramp surface of the ramp member includes ~~has a ramp surface with~~ a single ramp surface segment.
13. (canceled)
14. (currently amended) A pipette as set forth in claim ~~[[13]]~~ 11, wherein the remover element includes a response surface which is opposite and ~~ramp member has its ramp surface responded by a complementary surface integral with the remover element~~ to the ramp surface of the ramp member.
15. (previously presented) A pipette as set forth in claim 11, wherein the pipette has a motor for rotating the ramp member.
16. (currently amended) A pipette as set forth in claim 11, wherein the ramp surface of the ramp member is positioned ~~has its ramp surface~~ above ~~[[the]]~~ a top end of the remover element.
17. (previously presented) A pipette as set forth in claim 11, wherein the ramp member is rotatable about an axis substantially parallel to the moving direction of the remover element.
18. (currently amended) A pipette as set forth in claim 11, further comprising ~~which is provided with~~ a manually operated element or a motor for operating the plunger.
19. (currently amended) A pipette tip removing mechanism for disengaging a tip from a pipette, said tip removing mechanism comprising:
 - (i) a remover element which is moveable in a direction between first and second positions, wherein the remover element, ~~upon moving it against the tip,~~ disengages the tip in response to being moved from the first

- ~~position thereof and into the second position thereof, and wherein the tip removing mechanism further comprises~~
- (ii) ~~a rotatable ramp member defining a circular spiral, which is rotatable and which has a circle-forming ramp surface, wherein the ramp surface includes at least one ramp surface segment which establishes including one or more segments within which the ramp surface has a high point, [[and]] a low point and a substantially vertical section between the high and low points, wherein rotation of whereby the ramp surface, upon rotating through the at least one ramp surface a single segment [[,]] responsively forces the remover element first to move into the second position thereof against the tip so as to disengage the tip from the housing and thereafter then allows [[it]] the remover element to return to the first position thereof.~~
20. (currently amended) A method for removing a tip from a pipette comprising pressing, ~~in which method the tip is pressed off the pipette~~ by means of a remover element included in a tip removing mechanism that is movable in a direction between first and second positions, wherein pressing the tip off the pipette includes operating the tip removing mechanism ~~is operated by~~ using a ramp member ~~[[,]]~~ which is rotatable by a motor about an axis parallel to the ~~moving direction of movement~~ of the remover element and which has a circular spiral ~~circle-forming~~ ramp surface which includes at least one ramp surface segment, ~~including one or more segments within which the ramp surface has a~~ high point, ~~[[and]]~~ a low point and a substantially vertical section between the high and low points, and rotating whereby the ramp surface, upon rotating through a single ramp surface segment to responsively move the remover element into the second position so as, forces the re-mover element first to move against the tip and then allows it to return.

21. (new) A pipette comprising:
a housing defining a pipette axis;
a tip removably fitted onto a distal end of the housing for receiving a liquid therein; and
a tip removal mechanism for removing the tip from the housing, wherein the tip removal mechanism comprises,
- (i) an operating rod which is reciprocally movable relative to the housing axis between retracted and extended positions;
 - (ii) a ramp member which is rotatable about a rotation axis that is parallel to the pipette axis;
 - (iii) a ramp abutment member fixed to an upper end of the operating rod and defining a response surface in opposition to and in contact with the ramp surface; wherein
 - (iv) each of the ramp and response surfaces define an opposed circular spiral surface having a high point, a low point and a substantially vertical step between the high and low points such that rotation of the ramp member causes the ramp surface to rotatable move against the response surface to thereby responsively displace the operating rod from the retracted position to the extended position thereof and thereby remove the tip from the housing.
22. (new) A pipette as in claim 21, further comprising a motor connected to the ramp member and operable to rotate the ramp member about the rotation axis.
23. (new) A pipette as in claim 21, wherein the tip removal mechanism further comprises a spring member operable to assist the operating rod to return to the retracted position from the extended position thereof.
24. (new) A pipette as in claim 21, wherein the operating rod comprises a tip removal collar which is slidable along the housing.